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Borough of Appleby



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1961

KENDAL
TITUS WILSON & SON, LTD.
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Kendal 1296.

Stricklandgate House,
P.O. Box 18,
Kendal.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Appleby.

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report upon the health of the Borough during the year 1961.

I wish to acknowledge the help and ready co-operation of my colleague the County Medical Officer of Health, and also the assistance afforded to me by the local general medical practitioners.

I am indebted also to the Public Health Inspector and his staff for the spirit of teamwork which exists in my department, and for the fund of local knowledge which they have laid at my disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

FRANK T. MADGE,

Medical Officer of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Area of the Borough in acres	1,877
Population (Registrar-General's mid year estimate) ..	1,760
Inhabited Houses	578
Rateable Value	£20,570
Product of a Penny Rate	£80
Rate in the pound levied in 1959-60.. .. .	20/-
of which the County Rate was	15/5d.

The ancient Borough of Appleby is the County Town of Westmorland, and lies on a beautiful winding reach of the River Eden beneath the long escarpment of the Pennine Range. The Town clusters compactly on the rising ground of the river banks and is dominated by the historic Castle. It is a small market town which mainly serves the surrounding farming countryside, but on one side the main trunk highway follows the old Roman road which passes over into north-east England. These geographical features determine the natural lines of communication and therefore influence the spread of infectious disease.

The geology of the Borough is mainly Penrith sandstone in the Permian System but in the northern portion there are some purple sandstones and shales in the Millstone Grit series of the Carboniferous System, with alluvial deposits and terraces along the river, and some glacial drift. These geological characteristics are of great significance in the supervision of water supplies and sewerage as well as affecting the economics of the Borough.

The climate is equable and the town is well sheltered from the prevailing winds. The air is generally very clear and there is little mist or fog. The rainfall varies between 30 and 40 inches a year, and snow may be expected for one or two weeks in the late winter.

The Borough is primarily a market town in character, and many of the small industries and crafts are ancillary to agriculture. There are also the following industries and occupations which provide local employment and bring a measure of prosperity to the Borough:—

Milk Depot.
Cheese Factory.
Egg Packing Station.
Railway Work.

In addition to these local industries the Borough receives seasonal tourist and business traffic from the Trunk Road. The variety of these local opportunities for employment has kept Appleby happily free from unemployment and has provided that economic security which is a most important factor in the maintenance of the public health.

STAFF.

Name.	Qualifications.	Office.	Whole or Part-time.	Other Offices.
F. T. Madge.	M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health.	Part.	M.O.H. Combined County Districts of Westmorland
R. H. Aldus.	M.A.P.H.I.	Public Health Insptr. from 1st Sept., 1961.	Part.	—
G. F. Hayes.	M.R.C.V.S.	Public Health (Meat) Insptr.	Part.	—
B. M. Machell.	—	Clerk to Medical Officer of Health.	Part.	Clerk to M.O.H. Combined County Districts of Westmorland

STAFF CHANGES

Mr. H. Sowerby having resigned his part time appointment on 31st October, 1960, the post of Public Health Inspector was vacant at the commencement of 1961.

The vacancy persisted throughout most of the year, and then your Council agreed with North Westmorland Rural District Council to a joint appointment, on the basis of your Borough paying four tenths of the salary and expenses of a suitably qualified officer.

Consequently Mr. R. H. Aldus was appointed part time Public Health Inspector of Appleby Borough, and commenced his duties on 1st September, 1961, while also holding the appointment of an Additional Public Health Inspector to North Westmorland Rural District Council.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The following extracts are made from information supplied by the Registrar-General, with figures for 1960 for comparison.

Area of the District in acres 1,877

	1960	1961
Estimated civilian population (mid year) ..	1,680	1,760
Live Births. Legitimate— males	12	14
females	9	9
Illegitimate— males	1	1
females	—	—
Total	22	24
Crude Rate per 1,000 population	13.09	13.6
Corrected Rate per 1,000 population	14.0	14.5
Birth Rate for England and Wales	17.1	17.4
Illegitimate Birth Rate per 1,000 population	0.5	0.5
Illegitimate Birth Rate per 1,000 live births.	45.4	41.1
Still Births. Legitimate— males	1	—
females	—	—
Illegitimate— males	—	—
females	—	—
Total	1	—
Total (live and still) births ..	23	24
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	43.4	—
Rate for England and Wales ..	19.7	18.7

	1960	1961
Deaths. males	12	11
females	13	15
Total	25	26
Crude Rate per 1,000 population ..	14.8	14.7
Corrected Rate per 1,000 population	13.9	13.8
Rate for England and Wales ..	11.5	12.0
Infantile Deaths (under 1 year)		
Total deaths under 1 year.. ..	1	—
Rate per 1,000 live births	45.4	—
Rate for England and Wales ..	21.7	21.4
Legitimate	1	—
Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	47.6	—
Illegitimate	—	—
Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—	—
Neonatal Deaths (under 4 weeks)		
Total neonatal deaths	1	—
Rate per 1,000 live births	45.4	—
Rate for England and Wales ..	15.6	15.5
Early Neonatal Deaths (under 1 week):		
Total early neonatal deaths	1	—
Rate per 1,000 live births	45.4	—
Perinatal Mortality		
Stillbirths and deaths under		
1 week.. .. .	2	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and		
still) births	87	—
Maternal Mortality:		
Total Deaths	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and		
still) births	—	—
Rate for England and Wales ..	0.39	0.33

Deaths from certain causes:—						1960.	1961.
Cancer	..	..	..	..	..	7	6
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil

The main causes of Death were:—

Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	7
Cancer	..	..	..	..	..	6

On account of the small population of the Borough the changes from last year's figures have little statistical significance.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Public Health Act, 1936. Sections 145-170.

National Health Service Act, 1946. Part III.

The Borough enjoyed a fairly free year from notifiable diseases. The whooping cough cases occurred at the beginning of the year, and the handful of measles around midsummer.

Hospital and Ambulance Arrangements for Infectious Diseases. National Health Service Act, 1946. Parts II and III.

The Regional Hospital Board, Newcastle provides an infectious diseases hospital at Carlisle to serve the area, and ambulance transport is provided by the County Council. Disinfection of premises is carried out by your public health inspector.

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of tuberculosis patients on the register at the year end were:—

Respiratory	...	7
Non-Respiratory	...	1
		—
		8
		—

No new cases were notified during the year and there were no deaths from the disease.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES TABLE.

	Total	Ages												Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
		-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-		
Measles	6	I	I	-	2	I	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Whooping Cough ..	II	-	-	I	-	4	5	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute Pneumonia ..	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	I	I	I	
Scarlet Fever	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL	20	I	I	I	2	5	6	2	-	-	-	I	I	I	

HOUSING.

There are 578 inhabited houses in the Borough, and an average of 3 persons per house: that is a low figure which reflects very little overcrowding even in the smaller houses.

Between the end of the War in 1945 and the 31st December in this current year, your Council have built 32 new houses, private builders have completed 56 new houses, plus a further 13 extra dwelling units by conversions and sub-division of existing premises.

Your Council now own 65 houses, and there is room to build more on the Scattergate Green site when they are needed. Tenants are chosen by a method which combines both a points system and personal selection.

The rateable values of your Council houses range from £16 to £24, and the rents are between 15/6d. and 21/6d. per week exclusive of rates.

Slum Clearance.

Your Council made a poor and reluctant start with your slum clearance duties after the 1939-45 war, but gradually improved as the old prejudices were broken down, and now we are on a much better footing.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, required your Council to submit, for the approval of the Minister of Housing and Local Government, formal proposals for dealing with all the unfit houses in the Borough. Your Council declared that there were 24 such houses, and the Minister approved a programme that would cause them to be dealt with before 31st December, 1960. They are not yet quite completed.

Progress with that Five-Years Programme was encouraging. During 1956 your Council obtained the owners' statutory undertakings not to use for human habitation, until rendered fit, the five dwellinghouses known as Nos. 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 Bongate. At a later date Nos. 24 and 26 were combined to make one dwellinghouse, reconditioned to a fit state with the aid of an improvement grant from your Council, and brought back into useful occupation. No. 30 has been similarly made fit with the help of an improvement grant, but not yet reoccupied. The other two unfit houses, namely Nos. 22 and 28 Bongate are still occupied by the original tenants and must be regarded as part of the uncompleted slum clearance task of the Borough, until either the occupiers are rehoused or the houses are made fit.

In 1956 also, your Council obtained similar statutory undertakings for Nos. 10 and 10a Chapel Street, but those two unfit houses were

subsequently turned into one reconditioned house, and the undertakings were cancelled in 1957.

During 1957, your Council obtained similar statutory undertakings for Nos. 2, 5, and 7/9 High Wiend. At the end of 1961 all of them were still occupied by the original tenants. They remain part of your task.

Also during 1957, your Council received similar statutory undertakings for Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Low Wiend. At the end of 1961 4 of them were still occupied by the original tenants, namely Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Another individual house, No. 46 Boroughgate was also made subject to a similar undertaking in 1957. At the end of 1961 it was still occupied by the original tenants.

The remaining 7 out of the 24 unfit houses in your Council's statutory slum clearance programme are situated in one block in Holme Street, being Nos. 6 plus 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 plus 12, 13 plus 14, and 15. They have had a stormy and unhappy history, without yet achieving a satisfactory solution of all the problems connected with the decayed structure of the premises and the people who occupied them.

I officially represented all 7 houses as unfit for human habitation as far back as 1949, but the Borough Council of that time were unwilling to follow the statutory procedure. The first break in the impasse happened in 1951, when conditions became very bad in No. 11/12, and an undertaking not to use the place for habitation was secured from the owner.

In 1953 a similar undertaking was accepted on No. 8, followed by some reshuffling of tenants within the block, leading to a further similar undertaking for No. 10.

The next development was that in 1956 the Borough Council of the time tried to purchase the block, with the idea of reconditioning the houses, but the District Valuer was unable to agree terms with the owner.

Consequently in 1957 the Borough Council decided to make a compulsory purchase order for the block, but again did not follow the prescribed statutory procedure, so the Minister of Housing and Local Government rejected the order.

I have subsequently offered to rescue the Council from these procedural difficulties, by re-representing the block under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957, as a clearance area, and I still consider that to be the best way.

Your Council however preferred to deal with the remaining occupied parts of the block as individual unfit houses, and at the year end they were contemplating action to secure a closing order on No. 13/14. The idea of purchase by the Corporation seems to have been shelved.

With patience and a clearer understanding of the long-term intentions for the Holme Street block of houses, it may be possible to unravel the complexities in time to complete the actions within the Council's statutory programme. What is more important is that the occupiers of the only houses still occupied, Nos. 6/7, and 9 should be found some better living accommodation than their present unfit places.

At this stage of the Council's statutory slum clearance programme, it is essential to have a clear picture of what remains to be done. Staff changes over the years have made it difficult to maintain continuity in long drawn out actions, but we seem now to be heading in the right direction, and now your main task is to rehouse the occupiers from about a dozen condemned houses.

Verminous Houses.

Public Health Act, 1936. Sections 83-85.

The average standard of cleanliness is high and no action was necessary during the year.

Nuisances re Dwellings.

Public Health Act, 1936. Sections 91-100.

Informal action was taken in 3 cases. 1 statutory notice was served.

Dangerous Buildings.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 58.

No cases were dealt with during the year.

Tents, Vans, Sheds and Movable Dwellings.

Public Health Act, 1936. Sections 268-269.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

At the year end there was one site in Station Road which was unlicensed under the 1960 Act, due to the default of the site operator to make proper application for a licence. Steps will have to be taken to ensure compliance with the law. Three or more holiday caravans had been stationed on the site for a long time.

One individual caravan on another site was also unlicensed and semi-permanently occupied. It was however removed before the end of the year.

Camping periods of not more than four days each occur twice a year by the staff of travelling fairground and shows which park and operate in the Butts, where public conveniences for both sexes serve the sanitary requirements.

A much more serious nuisance occurs every June at what is known as Appleby New Fair, or Appleby Horse Fair, when hundreds of people camp or put caravans of all sorts along the roadside verges of the Roman Road and the Longmarton and Dufton Roads. Many of them use the fields and hedgerows for all sanitary purposes and garbage disposal, and leave behind them a foul and dangerously polluted area.

It is said that the Horse Fair was originally part of a more general stock market, held many centuries ago in the centre of Appleby, but time eventually moved horse dealing up to the site known as Gallows Hill or Fair Hill. It is also said that an outbreak of smallpox some 90 years ago led to the building of hospital huts on the Fair Hill, and drove the campers out along the roadside verges. Their return on to the Fair Hill seems to have been further prejudiced by the land being later enclosed and let off for profit.

This ancient charter Fair is supposed to be restricted to two days, but in practice it extends to between a week and ten days before the sites are entirely vacated. It was estimated that some 2,000 people attended this year's Fair; gypsies, potters, tinkers, general dealers, and horse dealers from all parts of the North Country. Horses seem to be getting less, and the New Fair attracts more and more luxury motor-drawn caravans to this annual meeting place of a nomadic fraternity. Some of these provide their own latrines, but the rest are left to primitive customs.

Many of the campers themselves would like to see better sanitary conditions. In fact they collected over £100 some years ago towards the building of lavatories. The residents and farmers alongside the affected roads certainly would welcome improvement. Some of them barricade themselves in with barbed wire every June, and they complain bitterly about the fouling all around. The whole set-up is just too mediaeval in all sorts of ways.

Of course most of the nuisances take place just outside your Borough boundary, in the Rural District of North Westmorland, and the worst abuses take place on the highway verges of the Westmorland County Council, and the police cannot stop them. But the Fair historically belongs to Appleby. We should like to keep its colourful charm, and the money it brings into the town, if only we could introduce some 20th century hygiene into the mediaeval fun.

In 1961 a further attempt was made to solve this dilemma. The three local authorities and the police held a conference, and decided to get out plans for redeveloping the Fair Hill as a camping and caravan site, with proper access roads, water supplies, sanitation and refuse

disposal. They hoped that the Showmens' Guild might help with the cost and persuade their folk to go on the site instead of the roads.

At the end of the year, the technical officers of the three Councils had prepared a scheme for consideration early in 1962, but it will obviously be a long time before the present mess can be cleared up. There are very considerable public health risks meanwhile.

Swimming Pools.

This was completed in August 1959 and was open for one month. It is an uncovered open-air bath filled with fresh water from the public mains, recirculated with constant filtration and aeration as well as being chlorinated, so that the water is being continuously changed and purified. Informal samples of water taken for bacteriological examination were excellent. Changing accommodation, footbaths and disinfection were well maintained.

WATER.

The public water supply is not now adequate in quantity for the normal domestic supplies and industrial calls of the Borough, and certainly is not enough to meet the needs of further development.

The source of the supply is at the foot of the Pennines from two natural springs at Bank Wood in the Parish of Hilton. These springs arise near the junction of St. Bees sandstone and the red shale strata and apparently have a deep source. Their yield is remarkably constant throughout the year, being about 246,000 gallons per day, of which 216,000 gallons per day can enter Crotty Reservoir, the remainder being too low to be connected and therefore running to waste.

Crotty reservoir has a capacity of 68,000 gallons, but is normally by-passed to keep up pressure in the town. It is covered and ventilated and protected by a stone wall.

The water is quite soft and is suitable for all domestic purposes. It passes untreated to the consumer. The distribution mains are cast-iron with ball hydrants now of considerable age. As safeguards against contamination the town water is sampled at monthly intervals. About 575 of the 578 houses in the Borough have water laid on, and about 3 are still served by old-fashioned standpipes.

The quality of the public water supply is usually very good. In past years there have been occasional minor lapses due to surface water contamination at the headworks. When public water supplies are untreated they need a very cautious watch to safeguard against the risk of waterborne disease. The result of laboratory examination is set out in Appendix "A" including for the first time an estimation of natural radioactivity.

Water Schemes.

Your Council wish to get extra water for the domestic needs of the town and the new Cheese Factory. A scheme was prepared by your Consulting Engineer to take water from a new source at Ashbank, Hilton. Detailed investigation showed risks to public health from the gathering ground, and, after a Ministerial Inquiry, the source was not approved. At the year end the scheme was being modified to collect water above the areas of dangerous pollution and it looks as though its progress will be delayed by the forthcoming takeover by the Eden Water Board.

Meanwhile the Express Dairy Company developed a private borehole to get water for their own industrial use. I have scanty knowledge of its quality, or whether it will relieve the demand on the town supply to any material extent. We shall have to see.

SEWERAGE.

Public Health Act, 1936. Sections 14, 15, 47 and 87.

The Borough is well equipped with water closets, 570 out of a total of 578 have either one or more, although a number of houses share a common convenience with neighbours. The majority of the closets are connected to the main sewers, only 8 being served by cesspits or septic tanks.

Public conveniences are situated at three points and the town is now well served. Their maintenance occasionally presents difficulties. I get repeated complaints about dirtiness and the lack of light in the ladies conveniences. We suffer a lot of misuse in return. An extra effort is needed to solve these troubles.

The sewerage mains are mostly dual purpose, taking both surface water and foul drainage. Many of the old drains are of bastard size and very often laid with open joints. Many of these defects have been remedied during excavations for other purposes. A survey has been made and gradual replacement will be effected. The main sewer crosses the river near the Butts by an inverted siphon and thence flows through a brick-lined tunnel for 440 yards under Holme Wood to the river bank at St. Nicholas Wood, whence it is piped for the remaining 320 yards to the disposal plant.

The major reconstruction of the sewage disposal works was completed during 1960. It was necessary for the development of the town, and especially to treat the trade wastes from the new cheese making factory. The Express Dairy Company have collaborated very closely with your Council to plan the new sewage disposal works to the mutual advantage of all parties and the ultimate benefit of the town.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Public Health Act, 1936. Sections 72, 76 and 77.

Refuse is collected from the whole of the area of the Borough of Appleby by Council employees with the use of a dual purpose vehicle. The annual average volume of refuse is about 1,500 cubic yards.

Disposal of refuse is by tipping at Gallows Hill. It cannot be called controlled in the full sense because it falls far short of the Ministry of Health's standards. Exposed faces are extensive, covering is sparse, and there is a lot of untidiness with blowing paper. On the other hand it seems free from vermin and it is well away from the built-up areas, so I see no particular danger to public health. To bring the tip up to Ministry of Health standards would mean spending a lot more money on covering material and labour. It is a matter of simple economics.

Street cleansing is carried out systematically twice weekly in the town centre and as often as necessary on the district and country roads.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and the Orders and Regulations made thereunder, the Borough has the duty of carrying out specific responsibilities in the registration of certain food premises, in the supervision of milk and dairies, and in the wide field of protection of its citizens from food-borne diseases. The County Council are responsible for detecting the adulteration of foodstuffs and the supervision of the sale of drugs.

Precautions against Contamination of Food.

The Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

Periodical inspection of food premises has been carried out and informal action taken where necessary. Proposals have been made for raising the standard of cleanliness and general hygiene in these places. I am confident that traders are anxious to achieve a very high level of hygiene in their premises.

Bye-laws for securing cleanliness in food handling are in operation and it is hoped that their educative effect, rather than their penal provisions will be valuable to both the trade and the public.

Registration of Ice-cream Premises.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16.

Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947.

Under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 there is one registration for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream and 9 registrations for storage and sale only.

Registration of Prepared Meat Premises.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16.

At the year end registrations of sausage manufactories and potted, preserved and pressed meat, and pickled food preparing premises under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 were approved in respect of 2 premises.

Registration of Dairies and Dairymen.

Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 — to date.

Since October 1949 your Council has been responsible for the supervision of milk distributors and dairies which are not dairy farms. Your registrations at the end of the year:—

Distributors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

Milk-borne Diseases.

No epidemics of milk-borne disease occurred during the year, and therefore no action was required to stop any milk supplies or restrict the activities of milk handlers under Part VII of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Slaughterhouses and Knackers' Yards.

One slaughterhouse is licensed by the Borough Council.

It seems likely that consultations will take place early next year with adjoining local authorities and trade interests to see how future needs can best be met.

Condemnation of Meat at the Abattoir.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The following is a summary of the carcasses inspected and condemned in whole or in part:—

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	234	—	904	62
Number inspected ..	223	—	857	62
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	18	—	32	5
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	8.1%	—	3.7%	8.07%
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis:</i>				
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—

I am indebted to Mr. G. F. Hayes, M.R.C.V.S. for the above details, and for his skilled help in this valuable service to public health.

Condemnation of Foodstuffs.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Various foodstuffs in retail shops were condemned during the year as unfit for human consumption.

GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION.

1961 was a particularly difficult period because we were without a local public health inspector for most of the year, and for some of that time we were also without a town clerk.

Fortunately we were able to keep the essential services working with the help of the North Westmorland Rural District Council public health inspectors and other colleagues in the vicinity, and I had to cover some of the other duties myself.

I am most grateful to the Borough Surveyor, the other surviving staff at Appleby, our Veterinary Surgeon meat inspector, and the Rural District staff, for all our improvised methods of keeping the public health services ticking over in 1961, while the situation was being sorted out.

At last we seem to have achieved a more satisfactory solution to these recurring staff crises. The new joint appointment of a public health inspector with North Westmorland Rural District Council affords the most logical method of providing a small Borough, such as Appleby, with the technical services to carry out our duties.

On the basis of Appleby Borough paying four-tenths of the cost of the new inspector, we shall receive the equivalent of two days service per week. That is half a day less than the previous arrangement but I think it will suffice, and any joint scheme has to be worked with some elasticity and tolerance in actual practice. Anyway we will see how we get on.

Offensive Trades.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 107.

There are no offensive trades within the meaning of the Act carried on in the Borough.

Factories.

Factories Act, 1937.

There are 3 factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Factories Act, 1937, are the responsibility of the Borough Council for enforcement and 18 in which Section 7 is enforced. 13 inspections were made and in no case was it necessary to issue a written notice.

No prosecutions were required. There are no basement bakehouses.

Factory Inspections.

Premises.	Number of Premises.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	3	1	—	—
Factories not included in (1), in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	18	12	—	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	21	13	—	—

No Defects were found.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

No action was required under Section 47 for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

Shops Act, 1950.

These duties have been periodically carried out.

Common Lodging Houses.

Public Health Act, 1936. Part II.

There were no common lodging houses within the Borough.

Rent Restriction Acts.

No application for a certificate of disrepair was received under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

Smoke Abatement.

Public Health Act, 1936. Sections 101-106.

There were no cases for action during the year.

Pests.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Rat poisoning treatments have been given in the sewers and the refuse tip during the year. Inspection of other premises has been made when required and the occupiers given advice.

Laboratory Services.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 196.

Satisfactory laboratory facilities were available at Carlisle for all public health purposes.

Bye-laws.

The Bye-laws in force on matters relating to public health were:—

Building Bye-laws.

Food Handling.

New Legislation.

Home Safety Act, 1961 became operative 18th May, 1961.

Public Health Act, 1961 became operative 3rd October, 1961.

Housing Act, 1961 became operative 24th November, 1961.

Factories Act, 1961 became operative 1st April, 1962.

APPENDIX "A".

Laboratory Examination of Public Water Supplies.

Nature of Test.	Standards Max.	Head Works	Crotty Reservoir	Town's Main
Pr. coli-count 37° ..	3-10	0	0	0
Faecal coli-strep. ..	0			
Character	—	Clear	Clear	Clear
Reaction	—	6.7	6.9	6.5
Ammonical Nitrogen	.041	.003	.021	Less than .02
Albuminoid Nitrogen	.066	.037	.034	Less than .02
Total Solids ..	1000	100	150	125
Hardness { Total ..	300	76	80	56
{ Carbonate	—	45	43	29
{ Non-Carb.	—	31	37	27
Chlorides	30	10	10	8
Nitrates	1.0	1.220	1.340	—
Nitrites	—	—	—	—
O.2 Absorbed ..	1.0	.18	.16	.16
Heavy Metals ..	—	0	0	n/a
Rainfall 24 hours	—	Nil	Nil	Nil
Date Sampled ..	—	23/3/49	25/3/49	1/2/60
Laboratory	—	Darlington	Darlington	Carlisle

Chemical analyses expressed in parts per million.

Natural Radioactivity of Drinking Water.

A sample of the public drinking water supply was taken from the springs at the headworks in Banks Wood on 16th August, 1961, and was tested for natural radioactivity.

The gamma activity at the time of collection was estimated to be 0.2 micro-micro-curies per cubic centimetre. The long-lived alpha activity, at the end of 30 days test, was 0.25 micro-micro-curies per litre. The activity is thought to be due to the radium series of elements, probably radon.

Similar tests were made on water pumped from the Express Dairy Company's new deep well borehole, on the same date. The natural gamma activity was estimated to be 0.2 micro-micro-curies per cubic centimetre, and the long-lived alpha activity to be 0.075 micro-micro-curies per litre.

The results of these tests for natural radioactivity are mainly of pure scientific interest at the present time, as we are building up a picture of the different activities in all the public water supplies throughout Westmorland. It is too early to assess what effect, if any, these very small amounts of natural radioactivity might have on health.

But one thing about the results for the public supply from Banks Wood, is that they seem to confirm my earlier geological deductions about the deep source of the water from these springs, and help in exercising the future safeguards for purity.

No estimations were made for beta activity, the fallout of fission products from atomic bomb tests, our experience in other areas suggests that it is unlikely yet to have penetrated into the deep source of your public water supply. I have no reason to think your surface fallout is different from that in the surrounding districts where statistics are published by various national authorities. All we have to remember is that we are in the second half of the 20th century.

